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STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

At the 3474th meeting of the Security Council, held on 30 November 1994, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in Afghanistan", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council notes with appreciation the progress made by the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan, led by Ambassador Mahmoud Mestiri, and the report of the Secretary-General of 22 November 1994 (A/49/688).

"The Security Council fully supports the Special Mission's broad-based consultations with Afghan representatives and its proposals to bring about an end to the factional fighting, institute a process of political reconciliation and begin the tasks of rehabilitation and reconstruction of Afghanistan.

"The Security Council welcomes the acceptance by the warring parties and other Afghan representatives of a step-by-step process of national reconciliation through the establishment of a fully representative and broad-based Authoritative Council, which would: (i) negotiate and oversee a cease-fire, (ii) establish a national security force to collect and safeguard heavy weapons and provide for security throughout the country, and (iii) form a transitional government to lay the groundwork for a democratically chosen government, possibly utilizing traditional decision-making structures such as a 'Grand Assembly'.

"The Security Council notes with grave concern, however, the continuation of hostilities among the warring parties in Afghanistan, involving the continued suffering, death and destitution of innocent citizens of the country, and calls for an immediate halt to these pointless and destructive attacks.

"The Security Council calls upon all States to take the necessary steps to promote peace in Afghanistan; to prevent the continued flow of weapons, ammunition and military supplies to the warring parties in Afghanistan; and to put an end to this destructive conflict.

"Recognizing that the rehabilitation, reconstruction and development of war-torn Afghanistan will be dependent in large part upon the progress made towards the establishment of a reliable cease-fire and the development of a viable political process, the Security Council urges all States to support the peacemaking proposals of the Special Mission and to recognize its primary role in the peacemaking process.

"The Security Council calls on all States to respect Afghanistan's sovereignty, territorial integrity, strictly refrain from interfering in the internal affairs of Afghanistan, and respect the right of the Afghan people to determine their own destiny, and reaffirms its readiness to assist the Afghan people in their desire to achieve peace and tranquillity in their country."